

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

DECEMBER 12, 2018

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**4.6 million**

Population of CAR  
UN – October 2018

**2.9 million**

Estimated People in CAR  
Requiring Humanitarian  
Assistance  
UN – October 2018

**1.9 million**

Estimated People in CAR  
Facing Severe Levels of  
Acute Food Insecurity  
IPC – September 2018

**636,489**

IDPs in CAR  
UN – October 2018

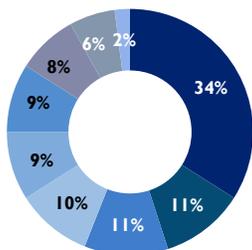
**85,431**

IDPs in Bangui  
UN – August 2018

**575,348**

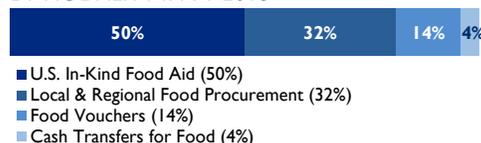
Central African Refugees  
in Neighboring Countries  
UN – November 2018

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2018



- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (34%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (11%)
- Health (11%)
- Shelter & Settlements (10%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (9%)
- Protection (9%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (8%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (6%)
- Nutrition (2%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2018



- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (50%)
- Local & Regional Food Procurement (32%)
- Food Vouchers (14%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (4%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Intercommunal clashes in Alindao and Batangafo kill and displace civilians, damage infrastructure
- Countrywide insecurity continues to endanger aid workers
- Number of severely food-insecure people in CAR increases by nearly 20 percent between March and September

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2018

USAID/OFDA	\$40,486,444
USAID/FFP	\$36,492,916
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$46,728,311
<b>\$123,707,671</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- An escalation of violence across areas of Central African Republic (CAR) in November led to civilian deaths, population displacement, and destruction of property. Fighting between armed elements in Basse-Kotto Prefecture's Alindao town on November 15 resulted in an estimated 60 deaths and displaced approximately 18,000 people from an internally displaced person (IDP) site destroyed by fire during the violence, the UN reports. Intercommunal fighting in and around Ouham Prefecture's Batangafo town led to the burning of an IDP site and displacement of approximately 27,000 people from October 31–November 1.
- Insecurity continues to endanger aid workers, the UN reports. Nearly 340 security incidents affecting aid workers occurred in CAR from January–October, including six aid worker deaths. Twenty non-governmental organizations (NGOs) temporarily suspended operations during the same period due to insecurity.
- On October 2, the Government of CAR Ministry of Health (MoH) declared an outbreak of Hepatitis E in Ouham-Pendé Prefecture's Bocaranga town. Health actors had confirmed 80 Hepatitis E cases as of November 23, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO).

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## INSECURITY, DISPLACEMENT, AND PROTECTION

- On November 15, armed elements attacked and set ablaze an IDP site hosted in a Catholic church in Alindao, displacing an estimated 18,000 people to a nearby UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) base and rural areas around the town. The UN reported an estimated 60 deaths due to the violence. The insecurity also led to looting of approximately 50 metric tons (MT) of food supplies at the IDP site, as well as a local NGO office and a nearby health facility, and damaged or destroyed civilian property, including emergency shelters, church buildings, and a water tank, the UN reports. Relief actors commenced rapid needs assessments and began facilitating emergency interventions, including health and nutrition support, in Alindao shortly after the incident despite persisting insecurity.
- Intercommunal clashes and retaliatory attacks escalated in and around Batangafo, including at an IDP site in the town, from October 31–November 1. During the attacks, armed elements burned a large portion of the IDP site, secondarily displacing an estimated 27,000 IDPs and destroying more than 5,000 tents, 300 blocks of latrines and showers, and several relief commodities, relief actors report. Additionally, the fires damaged market infrastructure and temporary education facilities in Batangafo, the UN reports. More than 10,000 of the IDPs sought shelter in a Médecins Sans Frontières-supported hospital in Batangafo, while the remainder fled toward Ouham’s Bouca town or nearby areas.
- Relief agencies continue to assess needs and provide emergency assistance—including essential relief commodities, food, health care services, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support—to affected populations in Batangafo and nearby IDP sites. In early November, USAID/OFDA partner MENTOR Initiative established mobile health care clinics to provide medical services to conflict-affected individuals in and near Batangafo and USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) distributed 300 MT of emergency food assistance to approximately 35,000 vulnerable people. MINUSCA deployed additional troops to Batangafo in early November to improve security and protect civilians. Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for MINUSCA and UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) for CAR Najat Rochdi issued a statement on November 1 condemning the incident and led an interagency assessment trip to Batangafo on November 4.
- A November 16 armed attack on a MINUSCA base sheltering IDPs in Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture’s Gbambia village resulted in the death of a Tanzanian peacekeeper, according to the UN. In a November 17 statement, UN Secretary-General António Guterres expressed concern about escalations of violence within CAR, particularly the killing of the peacekeeper and recent violence in Alindao, and called on CAR authorities to bring responsible parties to justice. In addition, RC/HC Rochdi issued a statement on November 21 highlighting the deteriorating humanitarian crisis in CAR, citing increased violence in Alindao and Batangafo.
- The UN recorded nearly 340 security incidents involving humanitarian workers in CAR from January–October, including six deaths and 21 injuries among humanitarian workers. Twenty NGOs suspended aid operations during the period due to insecurity. Three sub-prefectures—Bambari and Kaga Bandoro in Ouaka Prefecture and Bria in Haute-Kotto Prefecture—accounted for nearly 50 percent of the recorded security incidents. The nearly 200 security incidents recorded from June–October represent a nearly 40 percent increase from the approximately 140 security incidents recorded during the preceding five-month period from January–May.
- Approximately 636,500 people remained displaced in CAR as of October 31, according to a report from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)-managed Population Movement Commission. Approximately 40 percent of the IDPs in CAR were sheltering at IDP sites, while more than 60 percent were residing among host communities.

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## FOOD SECURITY, HEALTH, AND WASH

- Approximately 1.9 million people in CAR were severely food-insecure in September, representing a nearly 20 percent increase compared to March levels, according to a recent Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report. Nearly 1.4 million of CAR’s severely food-insecure population were experiencing Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity, while 550,000 people were experiencing Emergency—IPC 4—levels in September.<sup>4</sup> Ongoing armed conflict continues to contribute to food insecurity in CAR by generating population displacement and disrupting

<sup>4</sup> The IPC is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

crop and livestock production, which strain household coping mechanisms. Elevated food prices and poor road infrastructure further hinder vulnerable households' access to food. Approximately 50 percent of households in CAR spend more than half of their income on food, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization reports.

- The MoH declared an outbreak of Hepatitis E—a virus affecting the liver that is primarily spread through fecal–oral transmission, including from contaminated drinking water—in Bocaranga on October 2 after health laboratories confirmed nearly 30 cases, the UN reports. As of November 23, health actors had recorded approximately 120 Hepatitis E cases, including 80 confirmed cases, according to WHO. Humanitarian organizations are working with the MoH to conduct disease surveillance and deliver medical treatment and WASH assistance to control the outbreak.
- On October 21, the MoH reported the isolation of a yellow fever case in Ouham-Pendé, representing the third case detected in 2018; all three patients have been cured and the cases remain isolated incidents, according to the MoH. In response, WHO underscored the importance of yellow fever vaccinations given previous yellow fever outbreaks in CAR and urged health actors to ensure the vaccination of staff and sanitation of work environments to prevent yellow fever transmission. CAR's routine immunization program includes yellow fever vaccinations; however, the latest countrywide mass yellow fever vaccination campaign took place from 2009–2010.

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## USG ASSISTANCE

- In August and September, USAID/OFDA partner Solidarités International (SI)—with funding from the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) managed by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and supported by USAID/OFDA—distributed hygiene kits, kitchen sets, and water containers to approximately 4,200 displaced and returnee households, or more than 22,000 people, and rehabilitated 10 water pumps in Ouham. SI resumed operations in Ouham in June after early 2018 conflict between armed groups prevented humanitarian agencies—including SI—from responding to needs among displaced populations. Overall, RRM-funded response projects reached more than 237,000 individuals with relief commodities and nearly 161,000 individuals with WASH services across CAR between January and November.
- Despite persisting insecurity and access limitations across CAR, USAID/FFP partner WFP provided approximately 431,000 people with emergency food assistance, including unconditional food assistance for 319,000 people and school meals for 112,000 children, countrywide from April–September.
- From April–September, USAID/OFDA partner MENTOR Initiative reached more than 53,500 people with health education sessions and door-to-door campaigns and provided support—including administrative oversight, training of health staff, epidemiological surveillance, and supply management assistance—to 19 health facilities and three mobile clinics in Ouham and Ouham-Pendé. MENTOR Initiative also provided induction training for more than 130 new community health workers (CHWs) and 20 new health staff, including pharmacists and facility managers, and provided refresher training for nearly 650 CHWs. Additionally, nearly 52,400 people received consultations at MENTOR Initiative-supported health facilities or mobile clinics.

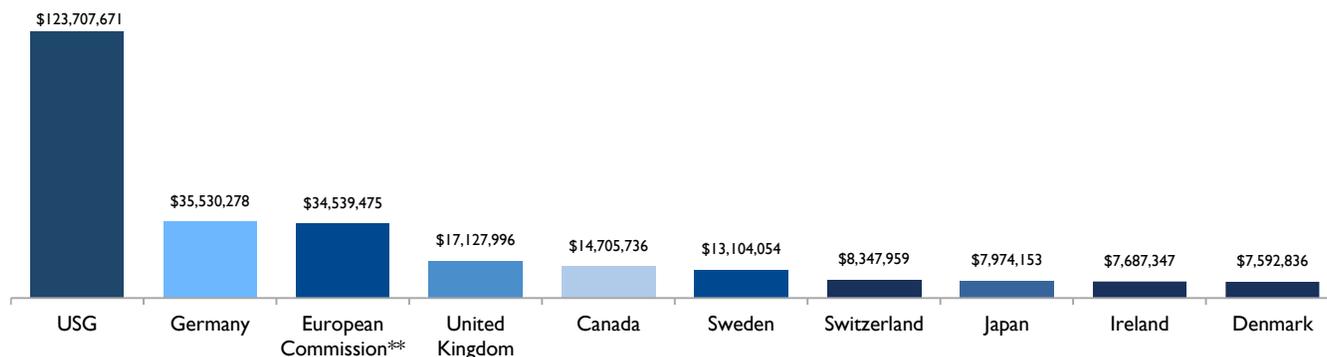
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## INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

- The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) announced a second \$15 million allocation from the CAR Humanitarian Fund—a pooled fund managed by the RC/HC—in mid-November to support emergency interventions for displaced populations and fill acute gaps in assistance for vulnerable populations in CAR. To date in 2018, the CAR Humanitarian Fund has allocated \$28.5 million to 36 partners, including seven UN agencies and 29 local and international NGOs, in support of humanitarian projects aiming to reach approximately 986,000 people.
- As of December 12, international donors had provided \$250.9 million for CAR's 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), representing approximately 49 percent of the \$515.6 million appeal. In comparison, the 2017 HRP received approximately 41 percent of the \$497.3 million requested, while the 2016 HRP received 36 percent of the \$531.5 million requested.

## 2018 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of December 12, 2018. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the calendar year 2018, while U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments from FY 2018, which began on October 1, 2017. USG funding addresses needs both within CAR and among Central African refugees and host communities in neighboring countries.

\*\*Includes contributions from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

## CONTEXT

- In December 2012, the Séléka armed alliance advanced across CAR in opposition to then-President François Bozizé. On March 24, 2013, Séléka fighters entered CAR's capital city of Bangui, effectively seizing control of the country and triggering a period of widespread violence. Security conditions deteriorated further in December 2013, when clashes erupted between the now-dissolved Séléka alliance and anti-Balaka groups composed of armed fighters that opposed ex-Séléka forces.
- Following a nearly three-year transitional period, CAR held presidential elections in December 2015 and February 2016, resulting in the election of President Faustin-Archange Touadéra, who assumed the office of the presidency on March 30, 2016.
- Conflict between armed groups has persisted across much of CAR in 2018; however, armed groups have fragmented and reformed among various alliances, complicating the ongoing crisis. An estimated 2.9 million people in CAR require humanitarian assistance, while more than 575,300 people have fled the violence in CAR to neighboring countries. The security situation throughout CAR remains volatile, with continuing attacks against civilians, humanitarian workers, and UN peacekeeping forces.
- On October 10, 2018, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., David Brownstein reissued a disaster declaration for the complex emergency in CAR for FY 2019 due to the scale of ongoing humanitarian needs in the country.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2018<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Action Against Hunger (AAH)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Basse-Kotto	\$1,300,000
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Shelter and Settlements	Ouaka	\$1,902,000
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$2,400,000

Humanity and Inclusion (HI)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,150,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Ouaka	\$3,465,000
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,325,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	ERMS, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection, WASH	Nana-Grébezi, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,900,000
MENTOR Initiative	Health	Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$1,399,731
Mercy Corps	ERMS, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Basse-Kotto, Ouaka	\$1,235,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Nana-Grébezi, Ouaka	\$1,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Oxfam	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Haute-Kotto, Ouham, Ouham-Pendé	\$3,508,447
Plan International	ERMS, Nutrition, Protection	Haute-Kotto, Nana-Grébezi	\$1,935,000
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$850,000
SI	Agriculture and Food Security, Shelter and Settlements	Ouham-Pendé	\$900,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$5,750,000
UNICEF	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection	Countrywide	\$6,050,000
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS	Ouham-Pendé	\$619,431
	Program Support		\$296,835
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$40,486,444</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
ACTED	Cash Transfers	Haut-Mbomou, Mbomou	\$1,324,515
UNICEF	260 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid, Other	Countrywide	\$2,903,984
WFP	7,390 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid	Countrywide	\$15,414,417
	8,213 MT of Local and Regional Food Procurement; Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$16,850,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$36,492,916</b>
<b>State/PRM</b>			
CARE	Protection, WASH, Food Security	Chad	\$1,850,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Livelihoods, Protection	Cameroon	\$925,000

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Assistance to Conflict-Affected Populations	Countrywide	\$3,300,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Protection, GBV	Cameroon	\$1,900,000
Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS)	Livelihoods and Protection	Cameroon	\$1,450,000
Lutheran World Federation (LWF)	Livelihoods and Social Cohesion	Cameroon	\$1,500,000
PUI	Livelihoods and Food Production	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$1,700,000
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs and Refugees	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Cameroon	\$21,500,000
	Protection and Assistance for Refugees	Republic of the Congo	\$1,250,000
World Vision	Livelihoods, WASH, Protection, GBV	Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$2,353,311
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$46,728,311</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE CAR RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$123,707,671</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.661.7710.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>